

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-12.

Amendment of the Abstract and the Specification

In paragraph 2 of the Official Action, the Examiner objected to the length of the Abstract. In addition, in paragraph 3 of the Official Action, the Examiner objected to the specification because of a typographical error on page 16, line 11. The foregoing amendment shortens the Abstract and corrects the typographical error on page 16, line 11. In addition, the amendment also corrects a typographical error on page 12, line 6.

The Specification is Enabling

In paragraph 4 of the Official action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention. In particular, the Examiner alleged that the specification did not provide any detailed description of the structure and operation of the "communications element." The specification describes that a "communications element may be a private branch exchange (PBX), an end office of the wireline network, a mobile switching center (MSC), a services control point (SCP), an intelligent network element (INE), or an intelligent peripheral (IP)." Specification, page 6, lines 21-25. The specification adequately describes the structure and operation of the communications element by providing a list of elements that are well-known to one skilled in the art. In addition, the specification describes what is required to be added to the well-known elements to implement the invention. In particular, the specification provides details describing the table of entries. "The

entries in the table correspond to the units (wireless and/or wireline) operating in the communications network. Each entry includes an extension and a corresponding directory number or wireless number as appropriate to a wireline unit or a wireless unit.” Specification, page 6, line 25 through page 7, line 2.

As further evidence that the elements described in the specification are well-known, the Examiner is directed to one of the references cited by the Examiner, U.S. Patent No. 6,011,975 to *Emery et al.* (“*Emery*”). In column 1 of *Emery*, a list of acronyms is presented that includes intelligent peripherals (IP) and service control points (SCP).

The Examiner also alleged that the specification does not provide any detailed description of the structure and operation of the service control point, intelligent network element or intelligent peripheral. As described in the preceding paragraph an SCP is described by *Emery*. The specification describes that a table, such as an exemplary class of service (COS) table, may be stored at an end office, PBX, MSC, INE, intelligent peripheral (IP), such as a service node or a services circuit node, and/or an SCP or like device. Specification page 11, lines 6-11. A service node or a service circuit node is well-known to those skilled in the art, as demonstrated by U.S. Patent No. 5,438,568 to *Weisser, Jr.* (“*Weisser*”). A copy of the first page and Fig. 1 of *Weisser* are attached as Exhibit A for the Examiner’s reference. Fig. 1 of *Weisser* illustrates that a service node was known prior to the filing date of the present application.

***Emery* Does Not Anticipate Claims 1-5, 7 and 9-12**

In paragraph 6 of the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-5, 7 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Emery*. The Examiner alleged that *Emery* describes a telecom system that includes wireline and wireless units where each unit can call the other using an extension. In addition, the Examiner alleged that

Emery describes a table with entries for all of the wireless units and that an MSC of the wireless network is operative to access such a table and route calls.

In support of these allegations, the Examiner cited column 24, lines 55-64 of *Emery*. The cited section of *Emery* describes that a personal communication subscriber could be a member of a Centrex group and that the subscriber would "dial a limited number of digits and the network would access data in the ISCP to determine the complete destination number." The cited section of *Emery* does not describe that a table is used for the call routing, as recited by the claims. In particular, independent Claim 1 recites a table comprising a wireless entry for each of the wireless units, each wireless entry including a wireless extension and a corresponding wireless number for the wireless unit. Independent Claims 7 and 9 recite a table that includes a wireless entry for each wireless unit, the wireless entries including a wireless extension and a corresponding wireless number and independent Claims 10 and 11 recite causing a table to include an entry for a wireless unit, the entry including the wireless extension of the wireless unit and a corresponding directory for a wireless number of the wireless unit.

The cited section of *Emery* describes that the network would access data stored in the ISCP to determine the complete destination number. The cited section of *Emery* does not describe a table, as recited by the claims. In addition, the claimed invention does not require that the data reside in the ISCP. For example, Claim 1 recites a communications element with access to a table. As described in the specification, the table may be stored at various elements in the network. For example, the table may be stored at each of the end offices and each of the MSCs (Specification, page 11, lines 14-16) or may be stored at a centralized location, such as an INE, an SCP, a selected one of the end offices, or the MSC (Specification, page 11, lines 21-23). Alternatively, the table may be stored at each PBX and at each of

the MSCs (Specification, page 12, lines 3-6) or may be stored at a centralized location, such as a particular PBX or MSC (Specification, page 12, lines 10-12).

The Examiner cited the transaction capabilities applications protocol (TCAP) described by *Emery* and alleged that TCAP describes a table. In support of this allegation, the Examiner cited column 13, lines 31-44 of *Emery*. The cited section of *Emery* describes that TCAP provides standardized formats for query and response messages. The cited section of *Emery* also describes that a query or response can include different types of information, including a routing number and a destination number. However, the cited section of *Emery* does not describe TCAP messages for implementing extension dialing. In particular, the cited section of *Emery* does not describe that a routing number is a wireless extension or that a destination number is a wireless number. The specification defines an extension number as a shortened dialing number. *See e.g.*, Specification, page 9, lines 17-18.

The TCAP protocol cited by the Examiner is not a table that is stored in or associated with a particular network element. Instead, TCAP describes a format for messages sent between network elements. The cited section of *Emery* describes that messages transmitted between the SSP and the ISCP are formatted in accordance with TCAP. However, the cited section of *Emery* does not describe that either the SSP or the ISCP stores a table that includes wireless extensions and corresponding wireless numbers, as recited by the claims.

Thus, although *Emery* describes that its personal communication services may be implemented to support extension dialing, *Emery* does not describe that such extension dialing is implemented via a table, as recited by the claims. Moreover, *Emery* only describes accessing data in the ISCP to determine the complete destination number. In contrast, the claimed invention describes a communications element with access to a table where the communications element is not limited to the SCP.

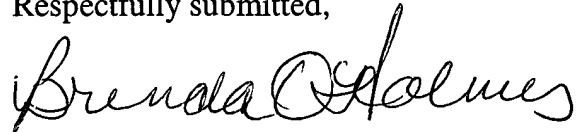
Emery and Shaffer Do Not, Either Singularly or in Combination, Describe, Teach or Suggest the Invention of Claims 6 and 8

In paragraph 8 of the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 6 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Emery* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,130,935 to *Shaffer et al.* ("*Shaffer*"). The Examiner admitted that *Emery* does not teach an intelligent peripheral in the telecom system. However, the Examiner alleged that *Shaffer* teaches an intelligent peripheral in a telephone network using TCAP and that it would have been obvious to combine the intelligent peripheral of *Shaffer* with the system of *Emery*. *Emery* describes a personal communications service that allows a user to send and receive calls using a single assigned number. Column 1, lines 15-18. In contrast, *Shaffer* describes billing a telephone call to an account associated with a number other than the number from which the call is placed. There is no suggestion in *Emery* that an intelligent peripheral is needed for the personal communications service or that the personal communications service could handle billing, as described by *Shaffer*. Nor is there a suggestion in *Shaffer* that the billing system described by *Shaffer* would benefit from a personal communication service as described by *Emery*. Therefore, it is submitted that there is no motivation to combine *Emery* and *Shaffer* in the manner described by the Examiner.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that the pending claims are allowable and a notice of allowance is respectfully requested. If there are any issues that can be resolved via a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 404.685.6799.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda O. Holmes". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the "Respectfully submitted," text.

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Version of the Amendments with Markings Showing Changes Made

In the Specification

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 3 with the following.

Example 4 – Fig. 4 – PBX/MSD – Distributed Scheme – A table 500 may be stored for access at each PBX 458 in the communications network and each of the MSDs such as MSD 470 that implement the communications network. When a PBX or an MSD receives an extension call, the PBX or MSD accesses the table, converts the extension to a corresponding directory number or wireless number, and routes the call pursuant to the corresponding number.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 16, line 7 with the following.

On the other hand, once Tarheel Mfg. installs a Centrex network pursuant to the exemplary embodiments, then the caller need only memorize or otherwise retrieve and dial an extension of four digits as opposed to a complete NPA-NXX-XXXX of ten digits. Moreover, the extension may be assigned in such a fashion so that it is easy for callers to memorize, retrieve, or deduce. The extensions may be assigned based on some numbering scheme that does not necessarily distinguish between wireline and wireless units. For example, all of the extensions in Fig. 5 (wireline and wireless) include two digits in common (“43XX”). Advantageously, the caller need only memorize, retrieve, or deduce the last two digits for any co-worker at Tarheel Mfg. Of course, a numbering scheme for the extensions may distinguish between wireline and wireless units. For example, wireline units may be assigned extensions that are even numbers while wireless units may be assigned extensions that are odd numbers.

In the Abstract

Re-write the Abstract as follows.

[Methods and systems to include wireless units of a wireless network in a communications network so that a] A call from a wireline unit [operating in the communications network] to a wireless unit [in the communications network] may be made by the wireline unit using an extension of the wireless unit rather than a wireless number of the wireless unit. A table [accessible to the communications network] includes an entry for the wireless unit[. The entry] that includes the wireless extension and a corresponding wireless number of the wireless unit. [When a wireline unit calls the wireless unit, the wireline unit uses the extension of the wireless unit. The extension is received, and in response, the] The extension is used to obtain the corresponding wireless number from the entry for the wireless unit in the table. The call then is routed pursuant to the obtained corresponding wireless number. Similarly, the inclusion of wireless units in the communications network allows for calls using extensions between a wireless unit and a wireline unit, between wireless units, and of course, between wireline units.